

MARKETING POLICY

§ 998.30 Marketing policy.

Prior to May 31, the committee shall prepare and submit to the Secretary a report setting forth its recommended marketing policy covering quality regulations for the pending crop. In the event it becomes advisable to modify such policy, because of changed conditions, the committee shall formulate a new policy and shall submit a report thereon to the Secretary. In developing the marketing policy, the committee shall give consideration to the production, harvesting and storage conditions, probable quality of crop, grading and treatment methods, inspection capability, demand for peanuts in domestic and foreign markets, the basis of handler indemnification, the probable assessable tonnage for the purposes of § 48 and such other factors as may have a bearing on the peanut quality regulation or the administration of this agreement. Notice of the committee's marketing policy, and of any modifications thereof, shall be given promptly by reasonable publicity, to producers and handlers.

QUALITY REGULATION

§ 998.31 Incoming regulation.

No handler shall receive or acquire peanuts, either from a producer or other person, unless such peanuts were determined pursuant to § 998.33 to be Segregation 1 peanuts at time of receipt from the producer or, if received from another person, had not been mixed with peanuts of a lower quality than Segregation 1: *Provided*, That a handler may.

(a) Receive or acquire and deliver for seed purposes farmers stock peanuts with not more than 3 percent damaged kernels nor more than 10 percent moisture if such peanuts were produced under the auspices of a State agency which regulates or controls the production of seed peanuts;

(b) Acquire shelled peanuts from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) or cleaned inshell or shelled peanuts from handlers subject to this agreement, or from buyers who have purchased such peanuts from such handlers or from CCC, if the lot has been

certified as meeting the requirements of § 998.32(a) and the identity is maintained;

(c) Perform services for an area association pursuant to a peanut receiving and warehouse contract; and

(d) If a crusher, acquire peanuts of a lower quality than Segregation 1 as oil stock upon such conditions as the committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may prescribe.

Segregation 2 peanuts which are wholesome relative to mold damage may be acquired from peanuts held by CCC or an area association when released by the Secretary as needed to fill demand. In the situation of § 998.35, the Secretary may authorize handlers to acquire Segregation 2 peanuts from producers or intermediaries. The acquisition of loose shelled kernels or their removal from farmers stock peanuts shall be in accordance with such procedures as the committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may establish.

§ 998.32 Outgoing regulation.

(a) No handler shall dispose of for human consumption, peanuts which fail to meet such U.S. grade requirements, or modifications thereof, or requirements as to wholesomeness as the committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may specify including the tolerance for moldy peanuts, time in storage, or other pertinent factors. No inspection certificate issued pursuant to § 998.33 shall be effective if unacceptable to the committee or for more than such period of time as the committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may prescribe. Peanuts which fail to meet the requirements specified pursuant to this section shall be disposed of by delivery to the Commodity Credit Corporation or in such manner as may be prescribed by the committee with the approval of the Secretary.

(b) Notwithstanding the restrictions contained in this section, and handler may transfer peanuts from one plant owned by him to another plant owned by him or to commercial storage without having an inspection made as provided for in § 998.33. No such transfers shall be made except in accordance with such procedures as the committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may prescribe for movement

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within each production area, to another production area or to points outside thereof.

§ 998.33 Inspection, certification and identification.

Each handler shall, at his own expense, prior to or upon receiving and before shipping or disposing of peanuts, cause an inspection to be made of any such peanuts not covered by a valid inspection certificate, to determine whether they meet the applicable grade requirements effective pursuant to this agreement and shall comply with such identification requirements as the committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may prescribe. Such handler shall obtain a certificate that such peanuts meet the aforementioned applicable requirements and all such certificates shall be available for examination or use by the committee. Acceptable certificates shall be those issued by Federal or Federal-State inspectors authorized or licensed by the Secretary.

§ 998.34 Modification.

The requirements of §§998.31 and 998.32 and definitions set forth in §998.5, (b), (c), and (d) may be modified by the Secretary, upon recommendation of the committee or other information, whenever he finds that such modification would tend to effectuate the objectives of this agreement.

§ 998.35 Above parity situations.

Minimum standards established under §§998.31 and 998.32, the grading and inspection requirements, and the provisions of this agreement relating to administration and indemnification shall continue in effect irrespective of whether or not the estimated season average price for peanuts is in excess of the parity level specified in section 2(1) of the Act.

§ 998.36 Indemnification.

The committee shall, upon such terms and conditions as it may establish with the approval of the Secretary, indemnify any handler, to the extent specified, for losses incurred by him on peanuts which have been milled for sale for human consumption and which meet the applicable grade and other re-

quirements but which are determined by the committee or the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to be unsuitable for human consumption because of aflatoxin including such peanuts returned, resold or rejected to a handler by a purchaser. Any peanuts for which the handler is indemnified pursuant to this paragraph shall be delivered to the committee or disposed of as the committee may direct. Funds for such indemnification shall be obtained pursuant to §998.48. The period of indemnification on any crop may extend to December 31 of the calendar year following the year in which the crop was produced.

[53 FR 20294, June 3, 1988; 54 FR 227, Jan. 4, 1989]

REPORTS, BOOKS AND RECORDS

§ 998.40 Confidential information.

All reports and records furnished or submitted by handlers to the committee which include data or information constituting a trade secret or disclosing the trade position, financial condition, or business operations of the particular handlers or their customers shall be received by, and at all times kept in the custody and under the control of, one or more employees of the committee, who shall disclose such information to no person except the Secretary. Notwithstanding the above provisions of this section, information may be disclosed to the committee when reasonably necessary to enable the committee to carry out its functions under this agreement.

§ 998.41 Reports of acquisitions and shipments.

Each handler shall file such reports of his acquisitions and shipments of peanuts, as may be requested by the committee.

§ 998.42 Other reports.

Upon the request of the committee, with the approval of the Secretary, each handler shall furnish such other reports and information as are needed to enable the committee to perform its functions under this agreement.